Palai, Mallappally, Ithipuzha and Moolaplakkel have been completed and all others except Cherai bridge are under execution. Under the Second Five Year Plan, twenty-four major bridges would be taken up in addition to the completion of the work on bridges already taken up. Provision has been made in the next year's budget for starting work on all bridges. For the year 1956-57, the target set for special surfacing and improvement of roads is 221 miles.

WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE.

11. In the latter half of the first plan period the State Government formulated some schemes under the National Water Supply and Drainage programme of the Government of India. Of these, the Trichur Water Supply Scheme has been taken up. Recently the work on Kottayam and Quilon Water Supply Schemes was formally inaugurated by the President during his visit to the State. Due to difficulties in the procurement of essential materials and equipments much progress could not be achieved in the implementation of the Water Supply and Drainage Schemes during 1955-56. Adequate provision has been made in the next year's budget to push through the execution of the various urban water supply and drainage schemes, which would be completed during the second plan period. In addition to the urban water supply schemes, a few of the rural water supply schemes are to be undertaken by the Public Works Department. The rural water supply schemes proposed to be taken up by the Public Works Department during 1956-57 are Alwaye Water Supply Scheme, Parur Water Supply Scheme, Tripunithurai Water Supply Scheme and Water Supply Scheme for Karunagappally coastal area. To ensure the speedy and efficient execution of the Urban and Rural Water Supply Schemes, a separate Public Health organisation under a Chief Engineer is being set up.

ANTI-SEA EROSION.

12. Latterly the problem of Sea erosion has become more menacing. An experimental scheme for providing protection to the worst affected areas was taken up in January 1955. It involves the construction of a sea wall and groynes one mile long at Mannasseri near Chellanom. Pilot studies for counteracting sea erosion are being conducted at the Central Water and Power Research Station at Poona. In the light of these

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Shri A. J. John]

studies, a more comprehensive scheme has been drawn up for implementation during the second plan period. The work provided for in the next year's budget by way of anti-sea erosion measures is the construction of sea walls between Pattanom and Thuthur, and at Kollencode and Pachalloor in the Trivandrum District, between Thirumullavarom and Neendakara and at Ponmana, etc., in the Quilon District and at Cranganur, Elankunnapuzha, Nayarambalom, etc., in the Trichur District.

FLOOD CONTROL.

13. On account of the flood discharge of rivers, the low lying areas in the State are submerged in the rainy season. To start with, a scheme of flood control in respect of Karamana and Killiyar rivers and at Thottappally area has been drawn up and necessary provision is made for undertaking it during 1956-57.

POWER PROGRAMME.

14. The development programmes of the Department of Electricity have shown marked progress during the year 1955-56. The erection of the 4th Generating set at Poringalkuthu, the commencement of the preliminary work connected with the Panniyar and Sholayar hydro-electric schemes and the execution of the Neriamangalam Scheme are the important new activities undertaken this year. The various schemes taken up during the First Five Year Plan except these four new ones are expected to be completed by the end of this year. The Commissioning of the Shengulam Generating set enabled us to tide over the shortage of current which was being experienced during the summer months in successive years. Utmost priority is being given to works relating to Rural Electrification, with a view to extend the benefits of electricity to both urban and rural people alike and to pave the way for setting up of cottage and small scale industries. Against the target of 800 new centres proposed under the First Five Year Plan, 675 centres have been electrified and work in 150 centres is in progress. These are expected to be completed before the end of this financial year, thus exceeding the target by 25 new centres. Government have also sanctioned the electrification of 220 additional new centres and works on these are being taken up. The target of the number of consumers has also been exceeded. By the end of this financial year, electricity will be available

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly